

# The Benchwarmers:

## Marathon in a Movie



(David Spade) and Clark (Jon Heder), is recruited by a wealthy nerd named Mel (Jon Lovitz) to form a baseball team to compete against Little League teams known for bullying non-athletes. Gus becomes a role model for the "geeks" until it is discovered that he himself was a bully in elementary school. The movie is a light-hearted look at sports competition with a behavior modification message for children and adults.

Many racing and Marathon fans may recognize the "Gus Bus" in the movie. The premiered Marathon coach was previously owned by former race car series champion Michael Andretti and bears his signature red, white, and blue paint scheme, obscured slightly by Gus Bus banners on the side of the coach. Those more familiar with the coach will be delighted to see Andretti's son's underbelly bedroom access hatch into the coach's salon used in the movie by Ritchie's agoraphobic roommate, Jerry.

Viewers can expect to see a talking robot butler, a surprising number of *Star Wars* movie artifacts, and many juvenile jokes in this crowd-pleasing comedy. If you're ready for a fun, irreverent view of reality, and a look at a Marathon coach, take in *The Benchwarmers*. The grandkids will love it. •

by Mary Barton

**T**he *Benchwarmers* movie opened April 7 to the delight of Rob Schneider, David Spade, Jon Heder, Jon Lovitz, and Marathon Coach fans everywhere. From Dennis Dugan, the director of the comedies *Happy Gilmore* and *Big Daddy*, the film features movie-goers' favorite nerds doing what they do best—making people laugh—but this time, the movie also showcases a Marathon coach.

Rob Schneider plays the main character, Gus, who along with his buddies Ritchie

